Today's News - Wednesday, February 10, 2016

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of Canberra, Australia's new "progressive, quirky and vibrant" Nishi Building that "favors messiness, localism and pluralism over the expected and generic."
- · BIG is tapped to design this year's Serpentine Pavilion but wait there's more (four more, to be exact).
- Stella and Schneider of the Detroit Creative Corridor Center consider what it means for Detroit to be a UNESCO City of Design: it "cannot simply be a moniker or a logo. It must be an attitude backed up by collective action."
- Pearman ponders what "architecture for the common good" is, and finds his answer in the winner of his MacEwen Award: "a second-hand wooden hut in South London. But a noble one and the very antidote to waste."
- · No editorial commentary, but eyefuls of some of the "Reinventing Paris" competition winners.
- Everyone seems to be onboard for NYC's LowLine subterranean park, "so, what's the hold-up?"
- Massengale explains why, if NYC (or any city) really wants to make its streets safer for MHOs, or Moving Hazardous Objects (a.k.a. people), we have to change the way we build them "we can have our cake and eat it to."
- Turns out all those zippy, stripy, flowery, colorful painted crosswalks cheering up neighborhoods (and neighbors) are against federal guidelines ("crosswalk art is actually contrary to the goal of increased safety"), but St. Louis "won't tear out existing painted crosswalks unless evidence suggests they are truly decreasing safety."
- HKS's roof for the new Minnesota Vikings stadium "is so cool it's barely there."
- True & Co. sends its "Try-On Truck" on a road trip across the country it's "part pop-up shop and fit shop, an iteration of 'nomadic retail,' and was inspired by the tiny home movement."
- · Gehry, Lin, and Branson discover how their ancestors took audacious risks (a genetic character trait, it would seem).
- · ArchDaily Building of the Year 2016 offers up "14 stunning winners."
- · Adjaye, Gang, Hartman, Bierut, and Forty are headed to the American Academy in Rome (che fortunati!).
- · ASLA celebrates six leaders of landscape architecture for African American History Month.
- One we couldn't resist: eyefuls of Malta's special carnival float "a rather unorthodox tribute" with a "gigantic, smiling" Renzo Piano titled "For those who have built Valletta" (we kid you not!).
- Call for entries: Design our Ryde (Australia) International Design Competition + Re-defining Home: Home Today, Home Tomorrow Design Challenge + London Internet Museum.

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	The Nishi Building: Canberra, Australia's parliamentary capital, is often labeled bland and bureaucratic. But the new buildingsits in stark contrastIt is progressive, quirky and vibranthas put Canberra back on the mapcollaborated with over 60 architects, designers, makers and artiststhe antithesis of a typical commercial, residential or hotel development. It favors messiness, localism and pluralism over the expected and generic. — Molonglo Group; Suppose Design Office; Fender Katsiladis Architects; March Studio; Oculus Landscape Architecture [images]

Serpentine picks five architects for expanded pavilion show: ...five structures, each designed by an architect of international renown, aged between 36 and 93...designs are expected to be revealed next week... -- BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group; Kunlé Adeyemi/NLÉ; Barkow Leibinger; Yona Friedman; Asif Khan- The Architects' Journal (UK)

What does it mean for Detroit to be a 'City of Design'? Being part of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network will allow Detroit and its region to participate in a global exchange of ideas focused on using design to address development challenges in industrial cities. But for what purpose? Detroit City of Design cannot simply be a moniker or a logo. It must be an attitude backed up by collective action. By Olga Stella and Ellie Schneider/Detroit Creative Corridor Center (DC3)- Model D (Detroit)

What exactly is "architecture for the common good"? The new MacEwen Award just found out: We grandly said that whatever was entered should be of demonstrable benefit across society - whatever that meant. Vague though all this was, it worked...the winner was a second-hand wooden hut in South London. But a noble one. The Oasis Children's Venture...It works. Clever old Walter Segal...the very antidote to waste. By Hugh Pearman -- Matt Atkins; Benjamin Marks [images]-CityMetric (UK)

Reinventing Paris: 10 winning urban designs to transform the cityscape: Mayor Anne Hidalgo invited the world's best architects to 'reinvent' the French capital...called for environmentally friendly urban designs to transform sites such as public spaces and unloved tower blocks...a selection of the 23 winning proposals. — Philippe Chiambaretta Architects; DGT Architects; David Chipperfield Architects; XTU Architectes; Sou Fujimoto; Nicolas Laisné Associés; Olivier Palatre Architectes; Jacques Ferrier Architectures [images]- Guardian (UK)

Will NYC's Underground Park Become a Reality? Stepping into the LowLine Lab is akin to walking onto a film set, if the film were "The Martian," or perhaps "Avatar"...t's at once surreal, futuristic, and unlikely...affectionately referred to as a "swoopy subterranean jungle cave"...This is great news for subterranean photosynthesis - with positive implications for the further development of sustainable green technologies. So, what's the hold up? -- James Ramsey/RAAD Studio; Daniel Barasch [images]- Artinfo

A city street is a terrible thing to waste: To stop the killing of pedestrians on New York City streets, we have to change the way we build our streets: ...the good news is that when we do make streets that are safe for pedestrians, traffic still flows...We can have our cake and eat it too...we can make beautiful streets where people want to get out of their cars and walk. By John Massengale [images]- Public Square: A CNU Journal

Feds Say Some Crosswalk Art Violates Guidelines: St. Louis will allow its painted crosswalks to fade..."crosswalk art is actually contrary to the goal of increased safety"...The city won't tear out existing painted crosswalks unless evidence suggests they are truly decreasing safety...cities might consider leaving those characteristic crosswalks alone, and installing traffic-calming measures instead.- Next City (formerly Next American City)

ZAS wraps a Toronto engineering school in a tessellated metal and glass screen: ...used an algorithm to create the triangular patterning on the facade of the new Bergeron Centre for Engineering Excellence...part of York University. -- ZAS Architects + Interiors [images]- Dezeen

The Roof on The New Minnesota Vikings Stadium Is So Cool It's Barely There: The new U.S. Bank Stadium is an enclosed stadium that almost feels like it's outdoors. -- HKS [images]- Esquire magazine

True & Co. Launches Mobile Try-on Truck: ...debuts a "Try-On Truck" that will travel the country with personalized bra fittings. This is True & Co.'s first foray into physical retail, and it converges four trends in one; part pop-up shop and fit shop, the truck is Lam's iteration of "nomadic retail" and was inspired by the tiny home movement. -- Spiegel Aihara Workshop and Mobile Office Architects [images]- Women's Wear Daily / WWD

Visionaries: Discover how the ancestors of business mogul Richard Branson and architects Maya Lin and Frank Gehry took audacious risks to create opportunities, and how their luck, ingenuity and chutzpah was passed on to these three visionaries. "Finding Your Roots" episode [video]-PBS

ArchDaily Building of the Year 2016: 14 stunning winners. -- Tim Greatrex; MAD Architects; Elisabete de Oliveira Saldanha; Herzog & de Meuron; Terra e Tuma Arquitetos; Tham & Videgård Arkitekter; ateliermob + Colectivo Warehouse; Sharon Davis Design; NAP Architects; Luigi Rosselli; Ryuichi Ashizawa Architect & Associates; FCC Arquitectura + Paulo Lobo [images]-ArchDaily

David Adjaye, Jeanne Gang, and Craig Hartman Headed to the American Academy in Rome Also included in the latest class are Pentagram partner Michael Bierut [and] Adrian Forty, an architectural history professor at University College London's The Bartlett- Architect Magazine

Celebrating Six Leaders of Landscape Architecture During African American History Month: ...committed to raising the diversity profile of the landscape architecture profession through general public awareness, early exposure to the profession and mentorship. — Kona Gray/EDSA; Courtney Hinson Cason/Langvardt Design Group; Aaron Ruffin/Jacobs; Christopher L. Sanders/SWT Design; Lindsey D. Smith/Favrot & Shane Companies; Mercedes Ward/NYC Department of Parks and Recreation- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Guess which famous architect Malta is paying tribute to with a special carnival float? ...a rather unorthodox tribute to...Renzo Piano...honoured at last week's Maltese Carnival for his architectural contribution to country's capital, Valletta...A gigantic smiling depiction of Piano appeared on a special float, titled 'For those who have built Valletta'... [images]- CLAD (Community of Leisure Architects & Designers)

Call for entries: Design our Ryde International Design Competition: reimagine the iconic Ryde Civic Hub for the Sydney suburb; no fee; cash prize; deadline: March 30- City of Ryde (Australia)

Call for entries: Re-defining Home: Home Today, Home Tomorrow Design Challenge (open to U.S. residents): create new standards in housing design so people can age in place; cash prizes; 1st Place design will be incorporated into an actual home in Memphis, TN; deadline: April 29- Home Matters/AARP/AARP Foundation/Wells Fargo

Call for entries: London Internet Museum: connect visitors to both the history of the internet and open them to the possibilities of its future; cash prizes; earlybird registration (save money!): March 2 (submissions due May 18)- Bee Breeders (formerly HMMD/Homemade Dessert)

A Filtered View #4: Where is Sustainability's Flying Buttress? It may take a decade or so before photovoltaics and other energy-producing technologies find an aesthetic foothold, but for architecture to survive - they must. By Charles F. Bloszies, FAIA- ArchNewsNow.com

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